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Applicant(s):

Knitl, R., et al. 09/254,101

Appl. No.: Filed:

March 1, 1999

Title:

METHOD FOR INCORPORATION FUNCTIONS FOR AN AUTOMATIC

CALL DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM INTO AN INTERACTIVE VOICE

ANSWERING SYSTEM

Art Unit: 2645

Examiner:

Allan Hoosain

Docket No.:

112740-072

Commissioner for Patents Washington, DC 20231

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Technology Center 2600

RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION

Sir:

This Response is submitted in Response to the non-final Office Action mailed August 22, 2001. Applicants request reconsideration and allowance of the patent application.

REMARKS

The Office Action was issued on pending claims 19-35. In this response, no claims have been amended, added, or canceled. Thus, claims 19-35 are pending in the case.

In Office Action paragraph 1, claims 20, 23-24, 26-27, and 31-35 were objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but noted as being allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Applicants thank the Examiner for this notice of allowable claims.

In Office Action paragraph 3, claims 19, 21-22, 25, and 28-30 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by Otto, U.S. Patent No. 5,703,943. In Office Action paragraph 5, claim 22 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Otto in view of Morganstein et al., U.S. Patent No. 5,020,095. In Office Action paragraph 6, claims 28-29 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Otto in view of Costello et al., U.S. Patent No. 4,510,351. Applicants respectfully disagree.

Applicants' invention, as claimed in claim 19, pertains to a method for incorporating functions of an automatic call distribution system in an interactive voice response system that is called and controlled by communication terminal equipment of a communication network.

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